

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS STATUS REPORT

(19 June 2007)

Having approved a comprehensive ten year plan for county wireless communications, the Madison County Board of Commissioners has elected to establish a new $\frac{3}{4}$ FTE position of Communications Coordinator, who will report directly to the Board (This will be in addition to and separate from the current DES/Director of Emergency Management position). The idea is to use this position to enhance administration all Madison County wireless communications and shepherd the county through narrow banding, coverage expansion and other improvements, including E911 implementation (as well as continued participation in SCMIC/IM and related programs). The expectation is that the position will be filled later this summer. In the meantime, I will remain on board on a limited duration month-to-month extension of my current contract, to facilitate the transition. This initiative is a measure of Madison County's commitment to interoperability and to meeting its related communications improvement responsibilities.

In a related matter and as part of the new Wireless Communications Plan, a plan for improved siting of all of the county repeaters has been developed. This will take advantage of and closely coordinate with current IM proposals for siting of the microwave sites. It also promises to develop new alternatives and proposals for the overall IM program. Efforts have begun to obtain the new VHF frequencies necessary to support this siting plan.